



TESTIMONY
of the
CONNECTICUT CONFERENCE OF MUNICIPALITIES
to the
BANKS COMMITTEE

March 1, 2011

CCM is Connecticut's statewide association of towns and cities and the voice of local government - your partners in governing Connecticut. Our members represent over 90% of Connecticut's population. We appreciate this opportunity to provide testimony to you on issues of concern to towns and cities.

CCM supports SB 957 - "AN ACT CONCERNING NEIGHBORHOOD PROTECTION."

This bill will require any person who undergoes foreclosures on residential property to register the property with the town/city clerk of the municipality in which the property is located. The bill would allow towns and cities to identify and track foreclosed properties so they can respond in a way to minimize their negative impact on urban neighborhoods. This is of particular concern for Connecticut's larger cities and those that have been more greatly impacted by the increase in foreclosure rates experiences in the past few years.

CCM supports this proposal as a way for municipalities to track vacant buildings and work to eliminate the blight they cause on neighborhoods. This bill would require registration on all residential buildings that become vacant, this would be an advantageous change from the current statute which limits the required notice to only certain types of residential buildings. This bill will also alert the town/city when a foreclosure is pending, rather than after it has been completed, therefore allowing the municipality to alert the lender of problems with the building during the foreclosing action.

CCM urges the committee to favorably report the bill.

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If you have any questions, please contact Mike Muszynski, Legislative Analyst of CCM via email mmuszynski@ccm-ct.gov or via phone (203) 500-7556.